J-nrage/CF/2856
HDP/SB/30 (10-01) based on PTO/SB/30

REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

Address to:
 Mail Stop RCE
Director of the United States Patent and Tradmark Office
 P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	10/065,616
Filing Date	November 4, 2002
First Named Inventor	Trevor J. DAVIS et al.
Art Unit	2856
Examiner Name	Andre JACKSON
Attorney Docket Number	8564-000026/US

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1.	Sul	omissio	n required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114									
a	a. 🛛		usly submitted									
	i.	<b>⊠</b> Co	ensider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on									
		(Ar	ny unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).									
	ii. iii.	_	nsider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on									
	b.	⊠ En	<del></del>									
•	i.	_		iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)								
	ii	=		Other								
2. Miscellaneous												
a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. 1.103(c) for a period ofmonths. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i) required)												
l t	b. 🔲											
3.	Fee	_ `	e RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed.									
á	The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No.08-0750											
	i.	==	E fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e)									
	ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.136 and 1.17)											
١,	iii. ☑ Other Any deficiency for a fee required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17.  b. ☑ Check in the amount of \$ 1,190.00 enclosed											
	c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed											
WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not												
be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.												
			SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTO	RNEY, OR	AGENT	r REQUI	RED					
Name (Print /Type) Gary D. Yacura			Registra	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 35,416								
Signature by Mount (41,646)			Date	April 5, 2004								
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION												
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as express mail in an envelope addressed to: Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:												
Name (Print /Type)				Expres Label	ss Mail No.							
Signature				Date								
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Attorney Docket No. 8564-000026/US

## IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S):

DAVIS, et al.

CONF. NO.:

4206

APPL. NO.:

10/065,616

ART UNIT:

2856

**FILED** 

November 4, 2002

**EXAMINER:** 

JACKSON, André K.

**ENTITLED:** 

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EXAMINING

**OBSTRUCTED WELDS** 

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

April 5, 2004

April 4 = Sunday

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the FINAL Office Action dated November 4, 2003 ("Action"), the Advisory Action dated March 11, 2004 ("Advisory Action"), and in connection with the concurrently filed Request for Continued Examination ("RCE") in the above-identified patent application, the Applicants respectfully contend that the following amendments to the claims are sufficient to overcome each of the pending rejections and place the application in form for allowance. The sections included in this preliminary amendment are as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper; and a Remarks section begins on page 13 of this paper.

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